

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims:

Claims 11-16 are in this application and are presented for reconsideration. By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 1-10.

II. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103:

The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the U.S. Patent No. 7,143,152 to Elman et al. (the “Elman et al. ‘152” reference, hereinafter) in view of the U.S. Patent No. 6,963,542 to Manthoulis et al. (the “Manthoulis et al. ‘542” reference, hereinafter).

In addition, the Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Elman et al. ‘152 reference in view of Manthoulis et al. ‘542 reference and further in view of the U.S. Patent No. 7,206,825 to Sauriol et al. (the “Sauriol et al. ‘825” reference, hereinafter).

In an effort to expedite protection of this Application, Applicants have canceled claims 1 to 10. Applicants reserve the full right to pursue these claims in a future continuation application.

III. Allowable Subject Matter:

The Examiner allowed claims 11-16.

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Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowed subject matter. Claims 11 to 16 have been amended to effect minor editorial changes.

It is Applicants position that the Application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner determine that issues remain that have not been resolved by this Response, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' counsel at the number listed below.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DK', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

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